

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

Chm/Sec

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		HRX		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA	<i>1360</i>	<i>1357</i>		
7	DDO		<i>1357</i>		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC	<i>1357</i>	X		
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/EEO				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/OEA				
16	C/PAD/OEA				
17	SA/IA				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPD/OIS				
20					
21					
22					

SUSPENSE

19 February

Date

Remarks:

Recommendation, please, to DCI together with a reply for his signature.

Executive Secretary

17 Feb 82

Date

82-0440



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William R. Kintner
President

Alan Ned Sabrosky
Director

February 5, 1982

Dear Bill:

As you know, for many years I have been involved in the work of the U.S. intelligence community, even including some years with the Agency. A concern that I have carried with me for a long time is the vulnerability of good intelligence estimates to certain human frailties, most particularly the problem we all sometimes have approaching new issues with habitual insights.

We have made progress over the years and we have learned from our mistakes, but we still have a long way to go in overcoming intellectual complacency. On the road ahead, I am convinced that research institutions outside of government could play an important supplementary role in opening our eyes to a wider range of interpretations of a given development.

For that reason, I want to bring the enclosed concept paper to your attention. It points out the special utility of external input into the intelligence process, noting that outside analysts are not entrenched in "schools" of thought associated with particular positions inside the Agency. Moreover, those outside the Agency can better afford to make strikingly novel interpretations when warranted by the evidence because their jobs and reputations do not depend as heavily on being the perfect prophet. Excessive caution is sometimes the enemy of truth.

If you agree that this proposal merits serious consideration, I would be happy to come talk it over with you at your convenience.

Wishing you the very best, I remain,

Respectfully,


William R. Kintner

The Honorable William H. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

WRK:deg